

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claim 1 is currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider her rejection in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Entry of Amendment

Applicants submit that the present amendment after final should be entered since it only combines existing claims and especially rewrites claim 2 which has been indicated as being allowable. Accordingly, entry and full consideration of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner considers the subject matter of claim 2 as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. While not conceding the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejection, claim 1 has been rewritten to include the limitations of claim 2. Accordingly, claim 1 is now in condition for allowance.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 1st paragraph is failing to comply with the written description requirement. Since the Examiner has not applied this rejection to claim 2, it is submitted that claim 1 now overcomes this rejection by the incorporation of the limitations of claim 2.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102/103

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 or alternatively under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over Ettre et al. (USP 3,655,496). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of the present Amendment, Applicants have added the limitations of claim 2 to claim 1. Since the Examiner has indicated that claim 2 would be allowable over this rejection, Applicants submit that rewritten claim 1 is now also allowable.

Conclusion

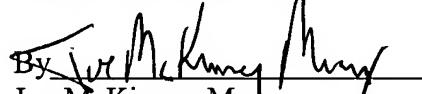
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims are now allowable, as indicated by the Examiner. Accordingly, an early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Robert F. Gnuse (Reg. No. 27,295) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: July 11, 2006

Respectfully submitted,


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